

SUBJECT: MDP, the Hungarian Workers' Party

1. MDP (Magyar Dolgozok Partja) was--despite its name, Hungarian Workers' Party--the one and only Hungarian Communist Party in existence between June 1948 and its dissolution during the Hungarian revolt in October-November 1956. The MDP came into existence in accordance with plans outlined at the Hungarian Communist Party Congress on 6 March 1948. These plans were realized in June 1948 when the Hungarian Communist Party and the Hungarian Social Democratic Party were fused. It is to be noted that the fusion did not take place until the Social Democratic Party had been thoroughly purged of those who were unwilling to accept (a) the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin, and Stalin as final authority, (b) Communist Party discipline, (c) "democratic centralism" as Party organizational form, (d) "dictatorship of the proletariat" as the only acceptable governmental form, and (e) "proletarian solidarity" as the basic rule governing the Party's and the Party-controlled regime's relationship with other Communist parties and with the Sino-Soviet Bloc governments.

2. The following are authoritative statements testifying to the Communist character of the MDP and to its subservience to the International Communist Movement, to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and to the Soviet Government. Underling has been inserted, and bracketed comments have been added.

- a. "In June 1948 the two parties /MDP and Social Democratic Party/ were united on the basis of the Lenin-Stalinist principles and thereby the unity of the workers' class, under the leadership of the Hungarian Communists, were carried into practice also in respect of its organization." (MDP secretary, Matyas Rakosi, in a lecture on Indocctrination of the MDP, entitled "The Road of Our People's Democracy, given on 29 February 1952, and printed in the March 1952 issue of Tarsadalmi Szemle (Social Review), which was the official theoretical journal of the MDP).
- b. "The Party's (MDP's) activities are directed by the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin, and Stalin (official MDP Statutes, printed by A Magyar Dolgozok Partja Szervezet Szabalyzata, Budapest, 1948).

- c. The MDP fights for progress which will lead toward Communism (MDP Statutes).
- d. One of the responsibilities of MDP members is to make every effort to master Marxist-Leninist doctrines and to carry out the resolutions of Party organs with discipline. (MDP Statutes).
- e. "New members can be admitted to the Party only individually.... A candidate is required to submit his written request for Party membership to the secretary of his local Party organ. The request must be accompanied by the written recommendation of two sponsors who have been members of the Hungarian Communist Party /predecessor of the MDP/, the Social Democratic Party /only those who were admitted in 1948 to the MDP/ or the Hungarian Workers' Party /MDP/ for at least two years and have known the candidate as a result of common activity for at least six months. The sponsors are responsible to the Party for their recommendations" (MDP Statutes). The amended version of the Statutes (published 25 March 1954 by Szabad Nep, the organ of the Central Committee of the MDP) excluded any reference to Social Democrats as sponsors.
- f. "Any person may become a Party member who identifies himself with the aims of the Party, with its political line and organizational Statutes, takes part in the work of one of the local organizations of the Party, submits himself to Party discipline, executes the Party resolutions, and pays the membership fees regularly. (Revised MDP Statutes.)
- g. "The greatest help /given the MDP leaders and MDP generally/ is the advice and directives of our teacher and leader, the great Stalin....Soviet interferences in the internal /MDP and government/ affairs...have been rather frequent and proved of great value in strengthening our Party....Let us recapitulate; without the heroic struggle of liberation /by the Red Army/ and without the unremitting kind support of the Soviet Union the Hungarian People's Democracy /both MDP and the MDP-controlled government/-and I may add, all other People's Democracies--/Communist-controlled regimes in Eastern Europe/ would never have been created." (M. Rakosi, cf. para 2a, above).

- h. The stages whereby the Soviet system was imposed on Hungary were described for MDP members by MDP Secretary M. Rakosi, in his "Salami tactics" article entitled "The Road of Our People's Democracy," printed in Tarsadalmi Szemle, March 1952. He described how the inner core of Moscow-trained Communists succeeded in gradually slicing away all opposition elements by relying on the Soviet Army, the political police and the hundreds of thousands of MDP members.
- i. The UN Special Committee on the Problem of Hungary (composed of representatives of Australia, Ceylon, Denmark, Tunisia, and Uruguay) had found that under the direction of MDP Hungary was "modelled more and more closely on the Soviet pattern. Free speech and individual liberty ceased to exist. Arbitrary imprisonment became common...." The Committee referred to the MDP in its report as either "Hungarian Workers' (Communist) Party" or "Hungarian Communist Party."
- j. The MDP and its official daily paper, Szabad Nep, were commonly recognized as tools of the Soviet Union to such a degree that the MDP and the Szabad Nep headquarters became the first targets of attack during the October-November 1956 Hungarian uprising. This Party and this paper were so discredited that after the uprising the Communists chose a different name both for their Party and for their official paper, Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and Nepszabadsag, respectively.
- k. Even Pravda, the official organ of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, had criticized the MDP during the October 1956 crisis in Hungary for its "slavish imitation" of the Soviet model (Pravda, 23 November 1956).
- l. One example of control of the Hungarian Party by the Soviet Communist Party is given by the Yugoslav Ministry of Foreign Affairs: "...A letter from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Hungary (now Hungarian Workers' Party) was received / by the Yugoslav Communist Party / through the Central Committee of the CPSU (B) which supported the attitude of the CC of the CPSU (B) on all points.... These parties / members of the Cominform, including the Hungarian Party /

adopted the basic standpoint of the CC of the CPSU (B) without hearing the opinion or any counter-argument on the part of the CC of the CPY /Communist Party of Yugoslavia, now League of Yugoslav Communists/. (White Book on Aggressive Activities by the Governments of the USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Albania towards Yugoslavia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia, Belgrade, 1951, p. 76).

- m. Another example of out-Sovietizing the Soviets and out-Stalinizing Stalin by the MDP is that MDP's official organ Szabad Nep had, in August-October 1949 during the period of extremely sharp attacks on Tito, led all Soviet-controlled Communist parties. It devoted 9.1% of its space to attacks on Tito, as against Pravda's 8.9% and the Polish Party's Trybuna Ludu 4.3%. MDP-controlled Radio Budapest devoted 1 hour 35 minutes daily to anti-Tito propaganda, as against Radio Warsaw's 30 minutes. (White Book, pp. 477-479).
- n. E. Geroe addressed the Central Committee of the MDP at the occasion of becoming first Secretary of the MDP as follows: "Our Party needs allies. We wish to march together with all good patriots, with everyone of good will and good intentions, even if they may not happen to be Marxists and Leninists. Yet I must state in quite unambiguous terms that the Party does not and cannot make any concessions in the ideological aspects of Marxism-Leninism.... We are Communists and proletarian internationalists.... Our Party is.... a proletarian international Party....; it is guided by the teachings of Marx, Lenin, and Engels." (Radio Budapest, Home Service, 19 July 1956)
- o. Throughout its existence MDP had been a member of the Cominform, an organization under strict control of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union; shortly after its founding in 1947 the Cominform assumed the power of disciplining any of its members who did not follow the Soviet Party or the Soviet Government.

3. As seen from above authoritative statements, the Hungarian Workers' Party, MDP, was an effective Communist Party. Its predecessor was officially called Hungarian Communist Party; its successor is also a Communist party, although it is called the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party. The MDP during its existence had openly advocated the overthrow of non-Communist governments, including the USA, by any means, including force and violence. Membership in the MDP coincides fully with the description in "The Immigration and Nationality Act" of 27 June 1952 (Public Law 414, 82d Cong.; 66 Stat. 163-282), Sec. 212, paragraph (28), (C)). The sole reason that the Hungarian Communist Party dropped from its official designation the word "Communist" and inserted in its place the word "Workers'" in June 1948 was to make the absorption of the former Hungarian Social Democrats less offensive to the Social Democrats and to give the appearance that the June 1948 reorganization was a fusion of two equal partners.